

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

JOHN LASH,

Plaintiff,

v.

KAREN GEDNEY et al.,

Defendants.

3:15-cv-00625-RCJ-VPC

**ORDER**

This action is a *pro se* civil rights complaint filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 by a former state prisoner. On January 4, 2017, this Court issued an order directing Plaintiff to file his updated address with this Court within thirty (30) days. (ECF No. 15). The thirty-day period has now expired, and Plaintiff has not filed his updated address or otherwise responded to the Court's order.

District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and “[i]n the exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . . dismissal” of a case. *Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles*, 782 F.2d 829, 831 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party's failure to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules. See *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (dismissal for noncompliance with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (dismissal for failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); *Carey v. King*, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (dismissal for failure to comply with local rule requiring *pro se* plaintiffs to keep court apprised of address); *Malone v. U.S. Postal Service*, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (dismissal for failure to comply with court order); *Henderson v. Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421, 1424 (9th Cir. 1986)

1 (dismissal for lack of prosecution and failure to comply with local rules).

2 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey a  
3 court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several factors: (1)  
4 the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to manage its  
5 docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring disposition of  
6 cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives. *Thompson*, 782 F.2d  
7 at 831; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 130; *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-  
8 61; *Ghazali*, 46 F.3d at 53.

9 In the instant case, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in  
10 expeditiously resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket, weigh  
11 in favor of dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to Defendants, also weighs in favor of  
12 dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of unreasonable delay in  
13 filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action. *See Anderson v. Air West*, 542  
14 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor – public policy favoring disposition of cases  
15 on their merits – is greatly outweighed by the factors in favor of dismissal discussed herein.  
16 Finally, a court's warning to a party that his failure to obey the court's order will result in  
17 dismissal satisfies the "consideration of alternatives" requirement. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262;  
18 *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 132-33; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1424. The Court's order requiring  
19 Plaintiff to file his updated address with the Court within thirty (30) days expressly stated: "IT  
20 IS FURTHER ORDERED that, if Plaintiff fails to timely comply with this order, the Court shall  
21 dismiss this case with prejudice." (ECF No. 15 at 2). Thus, Plaintiff had adequate warning  
22 that dismissal would result from his noncompliance with the Court's order to file his updated  
23 address within thirty (30) days.

24 It is therefore ordered that this action is dismissed with prejudice based on Plaintiff's  
25 failure to file an updated address in compliance with this Court's January 4, 2017, order.

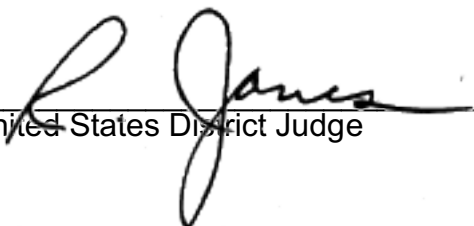
26 It is further ordered that the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* (ECF No. 1) is  
27 denied as moot.

28 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the inmate mediation scheduled for March 14, 2017

1 (ECF No. 14) is vacated.

2 It is further ordered that the Clerk of Court shall enter judgment accordingly.

3  
4 Dated: This 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017.

5  
6   
7 United States District Judge  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28